

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
and
NOTICE OF FILING OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

Concerning

Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River
Basins for the Control of Mercury in Cache Creek, Bear Creek, Sulphur Creek,
and Harley Gulch, Colusa, Lake, and Yolo Counties

The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of the proposed amendments to the Basin Plan to control mercury in Cache Creek, Bear Creek, Sulphur Creek, and Harley Gulch located in Colusa, Lake, and Yolo Counties. As part of amending the Basin Plan, the Central Valley Water Board will consider certification of the draft environmental documents prepared pursuant to Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code and Title 23, California Code of Regulations, sections 3775-3782. The public hearing, to be conducted during the October Central Valley Water Board meeting, is scheduled at the time and location noted below:

Date: 20 and 21 October 2005 (Contact staff two weeks in advance for date)

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Place: Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region office
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

On 23 June 2005, the Central Valley Water Board opened the public hearing to receive testimony and consider amending the Basin Plan. Staff has revised the proposed Basin Plan amendment based on comments received. The hearing will be continued at the October Central Valley Water Board meeting.

Staff is proposing for Central Valley Water Board consideration methylmercury objectives for fish tissue and an implementation plan to reduce mercury and methylmercury loads in the Cache Creek watershed. Draft environmental documents have been prepared for the proposed amendments, which conclude that the proposals will have no significant adverse effects on the environment.

Interested persons can obtain the draft staff report for the proposed Basin Plan amendments, which includes the environmental documentation required under CEQA, in PDF format from the Water Board's Internet website at:

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/programs/tmdl/Cache-SulphurCreek/index.html>

Copies of these documents may also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

In order to be included in the written response to comments that is a part of the final administrative record, written comments should be submitted by **5 October 2005** to Janis Cooke, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114. At the October hearing, Central Valley Water Board staff will summarize the written comments and present a final recommendation for Central Valley Water Board consideration. Interested persons will be provided the opportunity to present oral comments to the Central Valley Water Board at the hearing, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony will be limited in time by the Board Chair.

Confirmation of the hearing date and any questions regarding the proposed amendments should be directed to Janis Cooke at (916) 464-4672 or jcooke@waterboards.ca.gov. The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Janice Tanaka at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

/s/

Kenneth D. Landau, Assistant Executive Officer

23 August 2005